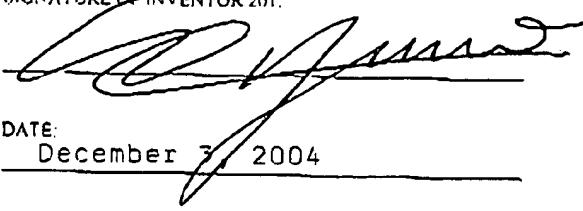
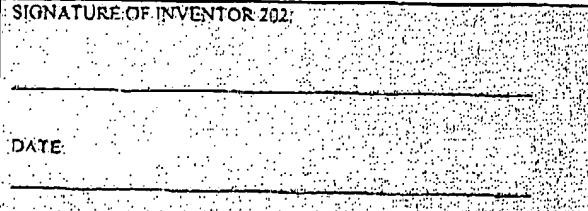


COMBINED DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY (Includes Reference to PCT International Applications)		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER BA-22902					
<p>I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119(c) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">(Application Number)</td> <td style="width: 50%;">(Filing Date)</td> </tr> </table> <p>I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) or PCT international application(s) designating the United States of America that is/are listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in that/those prior application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.</p>				(Application Number)	(Filing Date)		
(Application Number)	(Filing Date)						
<b>PRIOR U.S. APPLICATIONS OR PCT INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS DESIGNATING THE U.S. FOR BENEFIT UNDER 35 U.S.C. 120:</b>							
U.S. APPLICATIONS		STATUS (Check One)					
U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER	U.S. FILING DATE	PATENTED	PENDING				
PCT APPLICATIONS DESIGNATING THE U.S.							
<p><b>POWER OF ATTORNEY:</b> As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. (List name and registration numbers):</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">JOSEPH J. ORLANDO, Registration No. 25,218;</td> <td style="width: 50%;">ALLISON C. COILLARD, Registration No. 22,532;</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FERNANDA F. FIORDALISI, Registration No. 20,938;</td> <td>EDWARD R. FREEDMAN, Registration No. 26,048.</td> </tr> </table>				JOSEPH J. ORLANDO, Registration No. 25,218;	ALLISON C. COILLARD, Registration No. 22,532;	FERNANDA F. FIORDALISI, Registration No. 20,938;	EDWARD R. FREEDMAN, Registration No. 26,048.
JOSEPH J. ORLANDO, Registration No. 25,218;	ALLISON C. COILLARD, Registration No. 22,532;						
FERNANDA F. FIORDALISI, Registration No. 20,938;	EDWARD R. FREEDMAN, Registration No. 26,048.						
Send Correspondence to:		<u>BUCKNAM AND ARCHER</u>					
1077 Northern Boulevard		<u>Customer No. 178</u>					
Roslyn, New York 11576		Direct Telephone Calls to: (name and telephone number) (516) 365-9802					
2 <i>100</i> 0	FAMILY NAME	FIRST GIVEN NAME	SECOND GIVEN NAME				
	CAPURRO	Sergio					
RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP				
1	Genoa <i>JTK</i>	ITALY	ITALY				
2	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	CITY	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY				
0	Via Argonauti, 18	I-16147 Genoa	ITALY				
2	FAMILY NAME	FIRST GIVEN NAME	SECOND GIVEN NAME				
0	CITY	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP				
2	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	CITY	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY				
<p>I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.</p>							
SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 201:		SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 202:					
							
DATE: December 3, 2004		DATE:					

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<b>COMBINED DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY</b> (Includes Reference to PCT International Applications)		<b>ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER</b>
		BA-22902

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**ATRAUMATIC TWO-TIPPED SURGICAL NEEDLE**

the specification of which (check only one item below):

[ ] is attached hereto.

[ ] was filed as United States application  
Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_  
on \_\_\_\_\_  
and was amended  
on \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable).

[X] was filed as PCT international application  
Number PCT/EP2003/006685,  
on 25 June 2003  
and was amended under PCT Article 19  
on \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed:

**PRIOR FOREIGN/PCT APPLICATION(S) AND ANY PRIORITY CLAIMS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 119:**

COUNTRY (if PCT, indicate "PCT")	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 U.S.C. 119
ITALY	GE02A000056	26 June 2002	[X] YES [ ] NO
			[ ] YES [ ] NO